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JS 44 (Rev. 10/20)

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	beket slicet. [BBB His Health and	DEFENDANTS			
George Jones		Police Officer E	ugene Roher		
(b) County of Residence of	of First Listed Plaintiff Philadelphia	County of Residence	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Philadelphia		
	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	NOTE: IN LAND CO	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known)			
Wesley Cornish	, Cornerstone Legal Group 230 S Broadelphia, PA 19102 P:888-313-1385	oad City Law Depar	tment 1515 Arch Stree	t, 14th Floor Phila, PA	
	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PI	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
U.S. Government Plaintiff	X 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	(For Diversity Cases Only) P? Citizen of This State	TF         DEF           ] 1         ☐ 1         Incorporated or Pri of Business In Tr		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and P of Business In A		
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	6 6	
	(Place an "X" in One Box Only)		Click here for: Nature of S BANKRUPTCY	uit Code Descriptions. OTHER STATUTES	
110 Insurance   120 Marine   130 Miller Act   140 Negotiable Instrument   150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment   151 Medicare Act   152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)   153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits   160 Stockholders' Suits   190 Other Contract   195 Contract Product Liability   196 Franchise	330 Federal Employers' Liability   368 Asbestos Personal 345 Marine Product Liability   368 Asbestos Personal 345 Marine Product Liability   PERSONAL PROPER 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability   370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending Product Liability   380 Other Personal Injury   380 Other Personal Injury   385 Property Damage Product Liability   385 Property Damage Product Liability   385 Property Damage Product Liability   362 Personal Injury   362 Personal Injury   385 Property Damage Product Liability   440 Other Civil Rights   443 Housing   443 Alien Detainee   442 Employment   443 Housing   443 Alien Detainee   510 Motions to Vacate Sentence   535 Death Penalty   Other:   540 Mandamus & Other:   540 Civil Rights   555 Prison Condition   560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	of Property 21 USC 881  690 Other  To Pair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act  IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	375 False Claims Act 375 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	moved from 3 Remanded from the Court Appellate Court	(specify,	r District Litigation - Transfer		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON  Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a 42 U.S.C. § 1983, 20 U.S.C. § 1681  Brief description of cause: Deprivation of Federal Civil Rights	re filing (Do not cite jurisdictional stat	utes unless diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	N DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only i JURY DEMAND:	f demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE	SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNEY OF RECORD		-	
March 28, 2023		1			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUD	GE	

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

## DESIGNATION FORM

(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Plaintiff: 230 South B	road Street, 17th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102			
Address of Flamium.	ch Street 14th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102			
Address of Defendant.	900 Block of West Memphis Street Philadelphia, PA			
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 29				
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:				
Case Number: Judge:	Date Terminated:			
Civil cases are deemed related when <i>Yes</i> is answered to any of				
Is this case related to property included in an earlier numb previously terminated action in this court?				
Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out pending or within one year previously terminated action i				
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?				
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights  Yes  No  Ves				
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is / is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.				
DATE: 12/24/2023	Must sign here 310865			
	Attorney-at-Law / Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)			
CIVIL: (Place a √ in one category only)				
CIVIL: (Place a √ in one category only)  A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:			
A. Federal Question Cases:  1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases	Contracts  1. Insurance Contract and Other Contracts 2. Airplane Personal Injury 3. Assault, Defamation 4. Marine Personal Injury 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify): 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability – Asbestos 9. All other Diversity Cases			
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George Jones, Plaintiff, : United States District Court

vs. : Eastern District of Pennsylvania

: Civil Division – Civil Rights

Police Officer Eugene Roher, Defendant. : Case No.:

## **COMPLAINT**

1. Plaintiff George Jones ("Jones") via counsel, David Wesley Cornish, Esquire, Complains and states he was injured as follows, and via 42 U.S.C. §§1983, 1985, and 1988, of the civil rights laws passed by Congress, provides the appropriate remedy to persons who have been deprived of their federal constitutional statutory rights under the color of state law.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question) and the Civil Rights Act of 1871, 42 U.S.C. §§1983, 1985, and 1988.
- 3. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction for the state law claims, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367.
- 4. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) in that Defendants work and reside in this district and virtually all the acts described in this Complaint occurred in this district.

#### **PLAINITFF**

5. Plaintiff is **George Jones**, an individual and resident of the United States of America, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia.

#### **DEFENDANTS**

6. Defendant is **Police Officer Eugene Roher**, a police officer for the Philadelphia Police Department, who lives and resides in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

7. At all relevant times, the Defendants acted under the color of law as a municipality supervising municipally employed police officers while on duty.

- 8. On or about October 25, 2023, Defendant Roher who was employed as a Philadelphia Police Officer and acting under the color of law when he encountered the Plaintiff.
- 9. Defendant Roher claims to have seen the Plaintiff, and Collin Kulb, in the area of the 2900 Block of West Memphis Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 10. Defendant Roher claimed to have seen Alfredo Martinez, approach Plaintiff, engage in a conversation, and then Mr. Martinez handed Plaintiff money in exchange for small unknown items.
- 11. According to Defendant Roher's claims, after staying in the area for approximately 5 minutes, Mr. Martinez left and was stopped by other officers and a glass pipe were allegedly retrieved, with no narcotics or other contraband.
- 12. Defendant Roher claims due to Mr. Martinez's stop, he ordered the arrest "takedown" for Mr. Kulb and the Plaintiff.
- 13. Defendant Roher claims Mr. Kulb was stopped and alleged marijuana was recovered from on and/or near his person in addition to Plaintiff, who allegedly had heroin, cocaine, oxycodone, and marijuana.
- 14. Defendant Roher never claims in any testimony and/or police paperwork to have seen let alone overheard any alleged conversation between Mr. Kulb and Plaintiff.
- 15. Defendant Roher never alleged in any testimony and/or police paperwork Mr. Kulb and/or Plaintiff exchanged any money or objects between themselves.
- 16. Defendant Roher never alleged Mr. Kulb received and/or exchanged any money or objects with any alleged buyer.
- 17. Defendant Roher never alleged in any testimony and/or police paperwork Mr. Kulb spoke or had a conversation with any alleged buyer.
- 18. Defendant Roher is the only person to have seen the alleged narcotics transaction between Mr. Martinez and the Plaintiff.
- 19. Defendant Roher did not record any observations on video or audio he allegedly made of Plaintiff.

- 20. Plaintiff as a result solely of Defendant Roher's observations and communications was arrested and charged<sup>1</sup> by law enforcement agents with possession of a controlled substance<sup>2</sup> and conspiracy<sup>3</sup>.
- 21. Plaintiff was held in police custody prior to being granted ROR bail.
- 22. On November 9, 2023, Plaintiff had to appear in court related to the underlying criminal matter.
- 23. On December 21, 2023, the Honorable Lydia Kirkland dismissed all charges against the Plaintiff.
- 24. Plaintiff denies ever having "conspired" to sell and/or possess narcotics with Mr. Kulb.
- 25. Plaintiff denies at the time of the incident ever selling and/or possessing any illegal narcotics.

#### PLAINTIFF'S INJURIES

- 26. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates via reference the allegations contained in all the above paragraphs, as fully as though the same were set forth herein at length.
- 27. Due to the Defendants actions Plaintiff suffered the following injuries:
  - a. Physical discomfort from being arrested;
  - b. A loss of enjoyment and quality of life due to the Defendants actions in injuring him which caused physical and psychological injuries;
  - c. A loss of employment/business opportunities, in particular his job with FedEx due to the Defendants actions injuring him;
  - d. Loss of opportunities to continue his education and training:
  - e. Inconvenience, embarrassment, shame, and anxiety from Plaintiff's arrest and prosecution;
  - f. Litigation expenses for this civil matter including but not limited to filing fees, administrative fees, expert fees, court costs, civil counsel fees, and the like.

## COUNT 1 - FALSE IMPRISONMENT & FALSE ARREST

28. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates via reference the allegations contained in all the above paragraphs, as fully as though the same were set forth herein at length.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> MC-51-CR-19192-2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 35 Pa.C.S.A. 780-113(a)(16)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 18 Pa.C.S.A. §903

- 29. Plaintiff avers they were searched and seized within the meaning of the United States Constitution's 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment as applied to the states via the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment by the Defendants, during this incident.
- 30. Plaintiff avers his initial detention and arrest were illegal as it was not based on probable cause he was committing a crime as Plaintiff was within his fixed place of business.
- 31. Plaintiff avers his continued detention, after his arrest and the forwarding of criminal charges constituted a false imprisonment, as this was directly linked to his arrest, where no probable cause existed.
- 32. Plaintiff avers his seizure and resultant arrest by Defendants was illegal and improper because the Defendant knowingly lacked a reasonable suspicion, and/or probable cause to believe he was committing a criminal offense.
- 33. Plaintiff avers the police lacked probable cause to arrest them and they were falsely imprisoned pursuant to their arrests pursuant to the 4th Amendment of the United States Constitution against unjust seizures.
- 34. Plaintiff avers but for the Defendants' actions, he otherwise would not have been subjected to a search, seizure, arrest, and prosecution pursuant to the 4th Amendment of the United States Constitution.
- 35. The Defendant directly, foreseeably, legally, and proximately caused Plaintiffs to have suffered unjust, unwarranted, and unlawful incarceration, prosecution, and/or will continue to suffer the following damages: Physical Injuries including pain and suffering, Public shame and embarrassment, Past and future costs for medical treatment and care, Loss of enjoyment of freedom, Loss of employment/educational opportunities and wages, Loss of wages, Loss of enjoyment of life, Loss of enjoyment of freedom, and Past and future pain and suffering, inconvenience, and emotional distress.

  WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants, in an official, professional, individual, and personal capacity, individually, jointly, and severally for compensatory, punitive, and exemplary damages in addition to attorneys' fees, costs, interest, and the like in excess of one hundred and fifty-thousand dollars (\$150,000).

## **COUNT 2 – MALICIOUS PROSECUTION**

- 36. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates via reference the allegations contained in all the above paragraphs, as fully as though the same were set forth herein at length.
- 37. Plaintiff avers the Defendant initiated criminal proceedings in the underlying criminal case, against him via arrest, filing a criminal complaint, processing him, and consulting the District Attorney's Office about further charging him.
- 38. Plaintiff avers the Defendant lacked probable cause, as articulated in the United States Constitution's 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment and applied to the states via the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, to stop, search, and detain Plaintiffs when they first encountered him, and lacked probable cause to arrest and because the Defendants arrested him, his resulting imprisonment was unjust, illegal, and was the direct and causal reason he was incarcerated.
- 39. Plaintiff's criminal charges terminated in his favor when all charges were dismissed.
- 40. Plaintiff avers the Defendants acted maliciously or for a purpose other than bringing him to justice, as Plaintiff was not committing a crime when he first encountered the Defendant.
- 41. Plaintiff avers because of this criminal proceeding; he suffered a significant deprivation of liberty and freedom spending time in pre-trial incarceration.
- 42. Further, Plaintiff avers Defendants obscured the District Attorney's Office from making an independent judgment about the merits of prosecution as these Defendants failed to provide materially honest evidence and statements regarding Plaintiffs, the evidence observed, and recovered.
- 43. Plaintiff avers but for the Defendants filing a criminal complaint based on a gross misapplication of clearly stated law, and/or fabricated/non-existent evidence, he would never have had a criminal case initiated against him.
- 44. The Defendants directly, foreseeably, legally, and proximately caused Plaintiffs to have suffered unjust, unwarranted, and unlawful incarceration, prosecution, and/or will continue to suffer the following damages: Physical injuries including pain and suffering, Public shame and embarrassment, Loss of

enjoyment of life, Loss of enjoyment of freedom, Loss of employment/educational opportunities and wages, and Past and future pain and suffering, extreme inconvenience, and emotional distress.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants, in an official, professional, individual, and personal capacity, individually, jointly, and severally for compensatory, punitive, and exemplary damages in addition to attorneys' fees, costs, interest, and the like in excess of one hundred and fifty-thousand dollars (\$150,000).

## PUNITIVE DAMAGES REOUEST

- 45. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates via reference the allegations contained in all the above paragraphs, as fully as though the same were set forth herein at length.
- 46. Defendants actions in depriving Plaintiff of his rights, freedoms, privileges, and liberties is so outrageous as to shock the conscience of reasonable persons and shows reckless indifference for the Plaintiff's rights, especially when there was no reasonable suspicion or probable cause to believe he was committing a criminal act by carrying a legally purchased and owned weapon while working at his fixed place of business, and when asked told the police the same and was still imprisoned.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs demand exemplary and punitive damages plus attorneys' fees and costs in an amount in excess of One-Hundred and Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) against all Defendants officially, personally, professionally, individually, jointly, and severally.

#### JURY DEMAND

- 47. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates via reference the allegations contained in all the above paragraphs, as fully as though the same were set forth herein at length.
- 48. Plaintiffs demand a jury to determine the extent of damages and provide a full and fair determination pursuant to the United States Constitutional Amendments V, VI, and XIV.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/ David Wesley Cornish, Esquire

David Wesley Cornish, Esquire

Bar ID #: 310865

Cornerstone Legal Group, LLC 230 South Broad Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19102 Phone: 212-444-2039

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF JONES

**DATE**: December 24, 2023

George Jones, Plaintiff,

vs.

: Eastern District of Pennsylvania
: Civil Division – Civil Rights

Police Officer Roher, Defendant.

: Case No.:

## **VERIFICATION**

The facts set forth in the foregoing Complaint are true and correct to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information and belief and are verified subject to the penalties for perjury and unsworn falsification to authorities and/or the tribunal.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/ David Wesley Cornish, Esquire

David Wesley Cornish, Esquire

Bar ID #: 310865

Cornerstone Legal Group, LLC 230 South Broad Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19102 Phone: 212-444-2039

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF JONES

**DATE**: December 24, 2023